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Julie A. Bowen

Printed name of person mailing correspondence

Julie A. Bowen

Signature of person mailing correspondence

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Lee *et al.*

Art Unit: 1615

Serial No.: 08/729,343

Examiner: P. Kulkosky

Filed: October 16, 1996

Title: Orthopedic and Dental Ceramic Implants

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
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REPLY TO EXAMINER'S ACTION

In reply to the Examiner's Action mailed October 8, 1998, Applicant makes the following amendments and remarks.

In the Specification.

On page 5, after line 6; please insert the following passage:

C<sup>1</sup>  
--The bioceramic composition of the invention includes a hydrated precursor of a calcium phosphate and an aqueous-based liquid in an amount sufficient to hydrate the calcium phosphate to form a paste or putty, characterized in that the hardening of the